

REMARKS

Applicants have carefully reviewed the final office action of September 15, 2008, in which claimed 1, 3, 7-9, 11, 12 and 29-37 are pending and claims 9, 11, 12, 29, 33-37 were rejected. Claims 1, 3, 7, 8 and 30-32 were allowed.

Claim Rejections

Claims 9, 11, 12, 29, 33, 34, 36 and 37 were rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Hemmer, USPN 5531685 in view of Bolduc, USPN 622367. Claim 35 was rejected under 35 USC 103 as being unpatentable over Hemmer in view of Bolduc and further in view of Kaldany, USPN 5222949. Without addressing the merits of the rejection or intending any inference to be drawn from the cancellation of these claims beyond that which is stated here, applicants have canceled these claims in order to move the claims indicated as allowed to issuance in a patent, which cancellation renders these rejections moot.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1, 3, 7, 8, 30-32 are allowed. Applicants thank the examiner and agree that the claims cover patentable subject matter for at least the reasons given in the office action.

As all pending claims have been allowed, issuance of a Notice of Allowance in due course is requested. If a telephone conference might be of assistance, please contact the undersigned attorney at (612) 677-9050.

Respectfully submitted,

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By his Attorney,

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